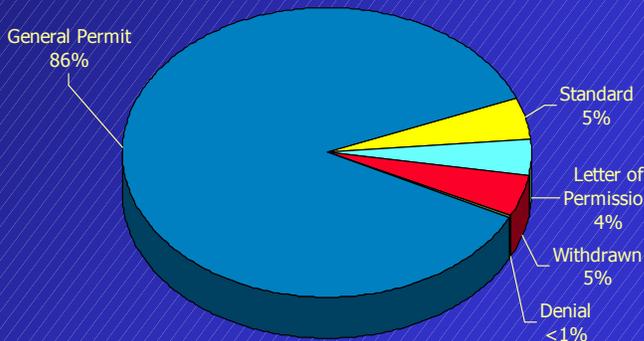




# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program

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## ALL PERMIT DECISIONS FY 2002



\*General Permits = Nationwide+Regional Permits

<u>TOTAL NUMBER EVALUATED</u>		
	<u>FY01</u>	<u>FY02</u>
Standard Permits:	4,159	4,023
Nationwide	37,088	35,768
Regional	38,759	38,125
Letter of Permission	3,066	3,258
Denial -	171	128
Withdrawn	<u>3,791</u>	<u>4,143</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87,034</b>	<b>85,445</b>

### Explanation of Permit Decisions

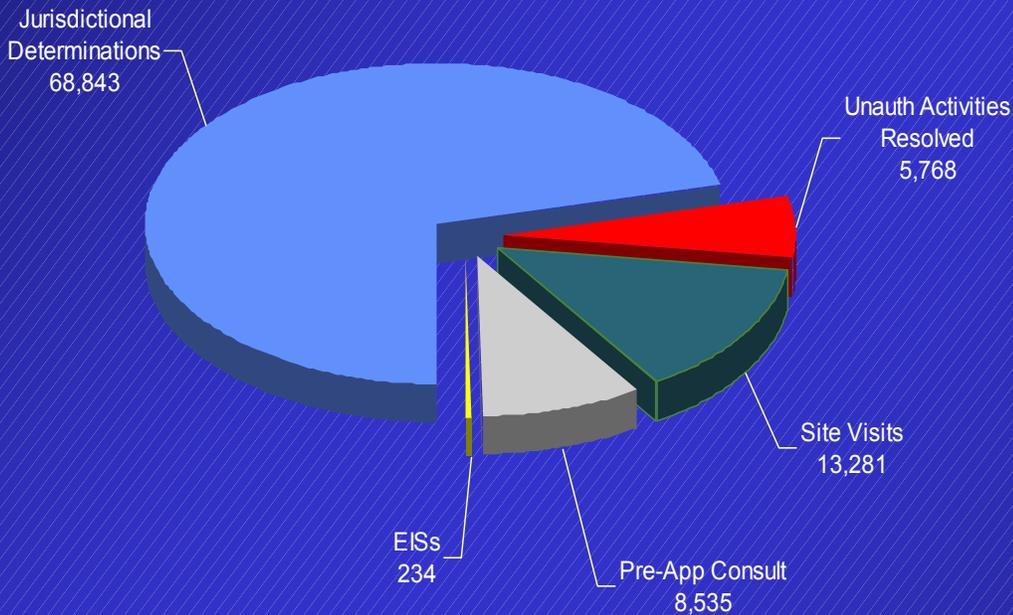
- ◆ Standard Permits = Permits which require public notice, opportunity for public hearing, an analysis of project alternatives, and completion of an Environmental Assessment.
- ◆ Nationwide Permits = General permits issued by HQ US Army Corps of Engineers to authorize activities with minimal impacts across the country.
- ◆ Regional Permits = General permits issued by division or district engineers to authorize activities in particular geographic areas.
- ◆ Letter of Permission (LOP) = Permits issued where it is determined by the district engineer that the proposed work would be minor and have no significant impact on the environment.
- ◆ Denials = Applications denied with or without prejudice
  - ◆ Denial with prejudice occurs when permit is denied because it is contrary to the public interest or it will result in unacceptable environmental impacts.
  - ◆ Denial without prejudice occurs when the permit is denied because the applicant lacks a necessary approval, such as water quality certification.
- ◆ Withdrawn = Individual permit applications withdrawn by the applicant or by the Corps.



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# *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program*

## Additional Workload Items FY 2002



### Additional Workload Items

Many activities in waters of the United States require case-by-case review by the Corps, either through the individual permit process or pre-construction notification requirements for general permits.

Jurisdictional Determinations include wetland delineations by the project manager, which may involve a site visit related to the project's boundaries and permit requirements. Delineations may also occur in the office by confirming boundaries on a map or discussing permit requirements and/or alternatives with applicants.

The Corps enforcement remedies allowed by the law and the Corps regulations focus on ways to bring violations into compliance without resorting to the judicial system. However, while rarely used, injunctive relief and referral of cases to the Department of Justice for possible prosecution are available remedies when legal action is warranted.

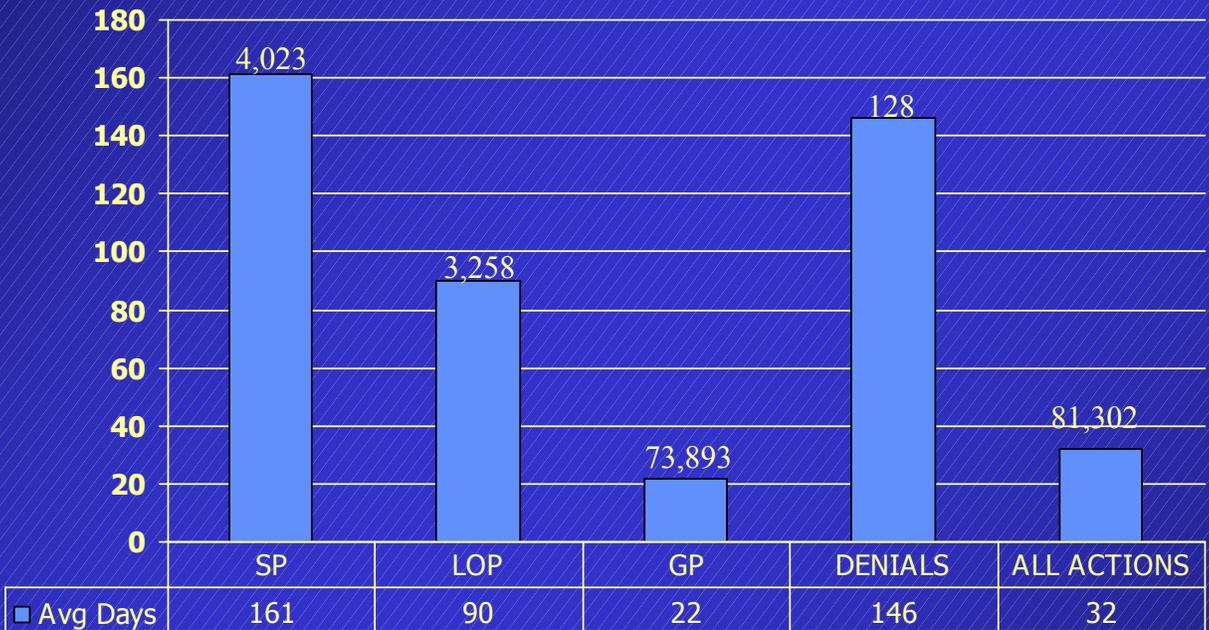
This chart shows additional workload items, including enforcement cases, handled by the Corps.



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## FY 2002 Average Evaluation Days



The goal of the Regulatory Branch is to administer its mission in a timely, fair and reasonable manner.

This chart shows the average evaluation days of the number of actions indicated above the bars.

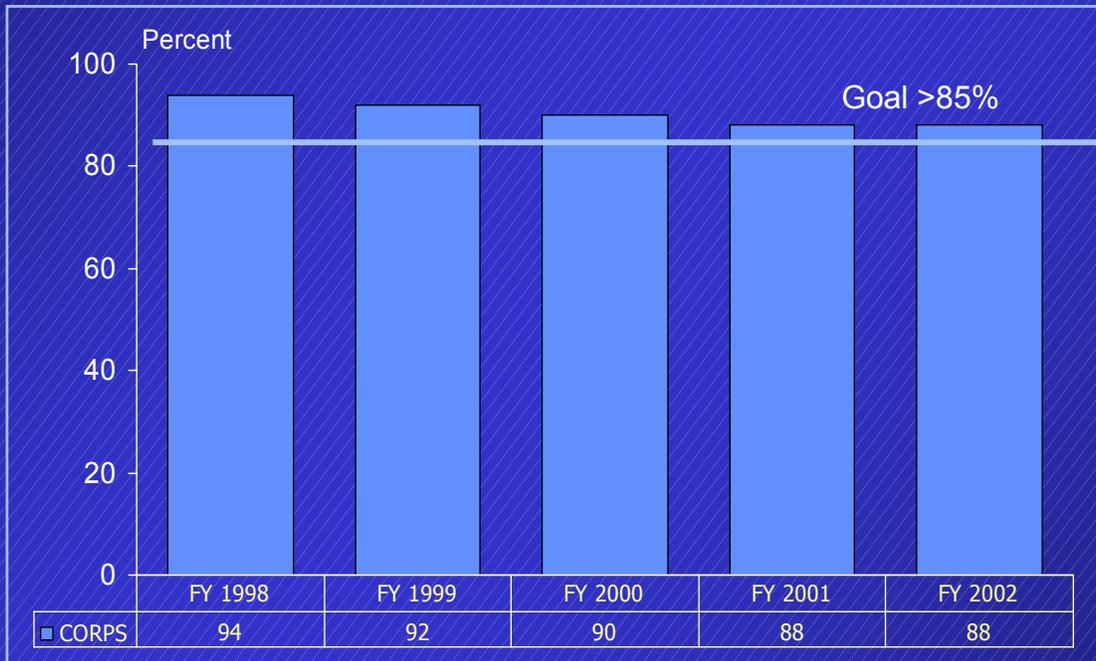


# ***U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program***

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## Permit Completion Time

***Percent of All Actions Completed < 60 Days  
Fiscal Year 1998-2002***



The goal of the Regulatory Program is to have 85-95 percent of all actions completed in less than 60 days.

The goal was established to provide a measure of the level of service received by the regulated public, irrespective of the type of authorization. This standard recognizes and promotes the use of regional and nationwide general permits to provide permit applicants with timely decisions. During the past 5 years performance has been dropping because of changes in standard permit review requirements and changes within the nationwide permit process.

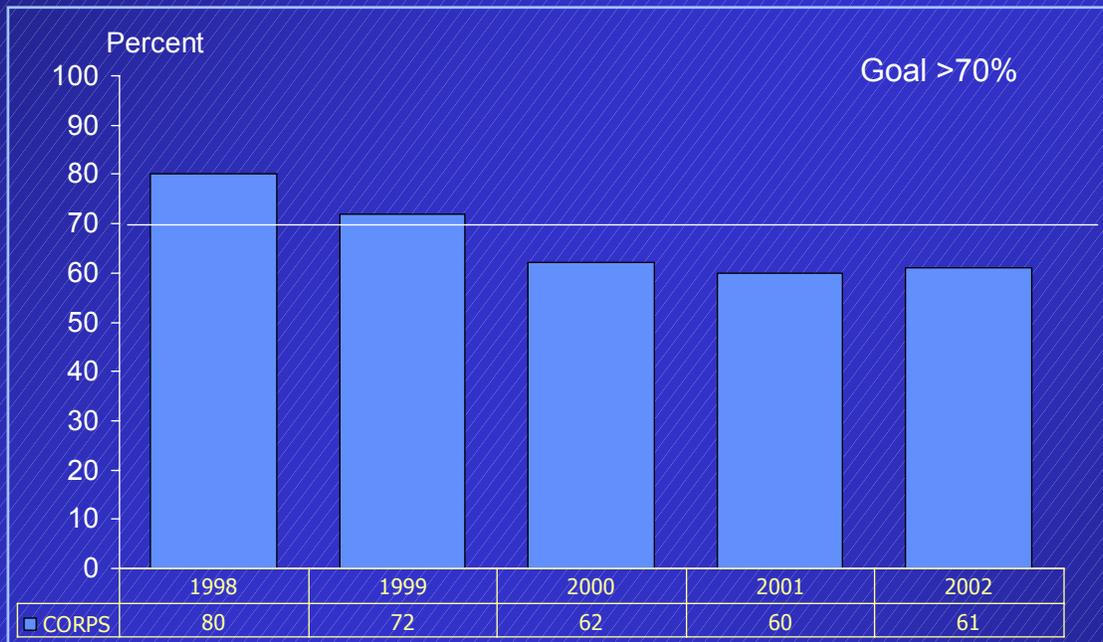
This chart shows the national average for the past 5 years.



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## ***Percent of Standard Actions Completed < 120 Days Fiscal Year 2002 Performance***



The Corps goal is to have 70-80 percent of all standard permits actions completed within 120 days.

Performance has remained approximately steady over the last three years (range is 60-62). Districts are contending with permit applications that are significantly more complex and involve lengthy analysis of the environmental impacts. Delays due to endangered species, historic properties, water quality, and coastal resource issues are also increasing. The general public and the environmental community are much more aware and involved with our process, leading to increased numbers of comments for every Public Notice.

During Fiscal Year 2002, 61% of all standard permit actions were completed in 120 days or less.

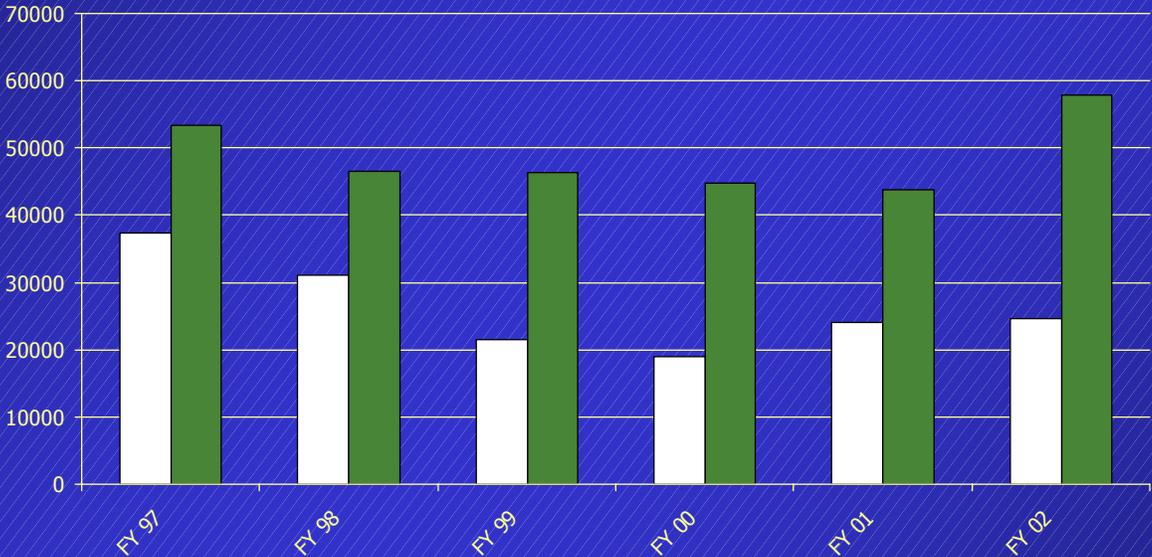
This chart shows the national average for the past 5 years.



# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program

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Wetland Acreage Impacts  
Includes Verified General Permits



One of the principal goals of the Corps Section 404 regulatory program is the protection of the Nation's aquatic resources, including wetlands. The Corps regulatory program supports the Federal government's goal of no overall net loss of wetlands.

This chart shows the permitted wetland impacts and the acreage of wetland compensatory mitigation required by the Corps to offset those impacts.